



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Delta Regional Office (serving Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi)
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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USDA TO SURVEY CATFISH PRODUCERS

Little Rock, AR – In January U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will reach out to catfish producers across the region to begin collecting information for the 2017 *January Catfish Production* report. Producers should receive the survey questionnaires in mid to late *December* and can respond via the Internet, mail, or fax. Those who do not respond in one of those ways will have the opportunity for a telephone or personal interview.

"NASS surveys catfish producers in January to create an accurate estimate of catfish inventories and prices in Mississippi and the Nation," said Eugene Young, Interim Director of the NASS Delta Regional Office. In Mississippi, NASS will survey approximately 164 catfish farmers in January asking them to provide the total water area, inventory breakdown of its usage into subcategories (brood fish, food size, and fingerlings), and sales throughout 2016.

The catfish industry relies on the *Catfish Production* report to make decisions about the marketing of their goods. Information provided by respondents, for all NASS surveys, is confidential by law. NASS safeguards the privacy of all responses and publishes only aggregate data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified.

Survey results will be published in the *Catfish Production* Report on February 3, 2017, at 2:00 p.m. CST. These and all NASS reports are available online at www.nass.usda.gov. For more information call the NASS Delta Regional Office at (800) 327-2970.

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NASS provides accurate, timely, useful and objective statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. We invite you to provide occasional feedback on our products and services. Sign up at <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/subscriptions> and look for "NASS Data User Community."

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